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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
Dearnaley, et al.

Serial No.: 10/674,203

Filed: September 29, 2003

For: Life Extension of Chromium  
Coatings And Chromium Alloys

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Group Art Unit: 1742

Examiner: John P. Sheehan

Atty. Docket: SwRI-2834-03

**RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed February 13, 2006 in the referenced application. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following Amendment and allowance of the pending claims.  
Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.  
Amendments to the claims begin on page 3.  
Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13.

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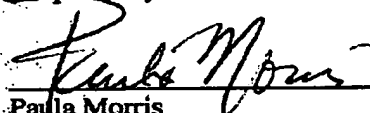
about 40 atomic % X in relation to the chromium content." Nor has the examiner pointed to a teaching or suggestion in Ngan of the claimed structure "wherein said outer surface comprises a chromium content and about 25 atomic % X in relation to the chromium content." The examiner has not pointed to a teaching or suggestion in Ngan that would motivate a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Ngan in the manner required to result in the claimed metallic component. The examiner therefore has not established a case of *prima facie* obviousness of claims 25, 26, 84, and 85 over Ngan. *In re Brouwer*, 37 U.S.P.Q.2d 1663, 1666 (Fed. Cir. 1995).

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 25, 26, 84, and 85 as obvious over Ngan be withdrawn.

#### CONCLUSION

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all of the pending claims. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this response, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0997 (SwRI-2834-03) maintained by Paula D. Morris & Associates, P.C.

Respectfully submitted,



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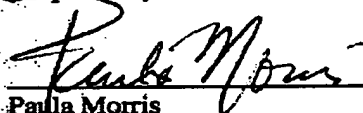
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